

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02609 101214Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-10

NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

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R 092340Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1725

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

UNCLAS USNATO 2609

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, CA

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS ON REDUCTION IN CANADIAN FORCES

UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS AT MAY 9 EWG MEETING CANADIAN REP
(COL SHEFFIELD) DREW COMMITTEE'S ATTENTION TO PRESS REPORTS FROM
OTTAWA THAT CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S PLANS TO WITHDRAW ITS ARMED FORCES
LAND ELEMENT FROM EUROPE, IN FAVOR OF CONCENTRATING EFFORT IN EUROPE
ON ITS AIR ELEMENT. HE SAID REPORTS WERE BASED
ON "UNFOUNDED SPECULATION" AND ADDED THAT REPORTS WERE ALLEGED
TO HAVE EMANATED FROM PRESS INTERVIEW WITH CHIEF OF STAFF DEXTRAZE:
HE DOUBTED THAT GENERAL DEXTRAZE, A DEDICATED INFANTRY OFFICER FOR
THE PAST 40 YEARS, WOULD FAVOR SUCH AN APPROACH. COL SHEFFIELD
INDICATED PRESS REPORTS IMPLY CANADA NEEDS 10 THOUSAND GROUND
FORCES PERSONNEL IN EUROPE TO MAKE ITS CONTRIBUTION MEANINGFUL
AND ALSO IMPLY A MORE USEFUL CONTRIBUTION WOULD BE 100 MODERN
AIRCRAFT. COL SHEFFIELD SAID CURRENT CANADIAN DEFENSE REVIEW IS
OBVIOUSLY ADDRESSING AT STAFF LEVEL A WHOLE RANGE OF OPTIONS,
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NATO 02609 101214Z

BUT EMPHASIZED REVIEW IS NOT EQUIPMENT ORIENTED. IN CLOSING,
COL SHEFFIELD SAID HIS CHIEF OF STAFF WOULD DISCUSS CANADA'S
DEFENSE REVIEW AT THE UP COMING MC MEETING AT CHIEF OF STAFF LEVEL,
AND HIS DEFENSE MINISTER WILL DISCUSS IT AT THE DPC MINISTERIAL

MEETING.
STREATOR

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO02609
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750599/abbrjxd.tel
Line Count: 59
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 SEP 2003 by buchantr>; APPROVED <16 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REPORTS ON REDUCTION IN CANADIAN FORCES
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, CA
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO OTTAWA
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Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006